

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to the first Official Action and prior to calculating the fees for the application.

The present application is a Continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/077,693.

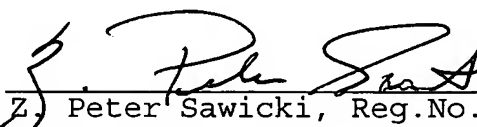
Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claims 23-36.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to deposit account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By:

  
Z. Peter Sawicki, Reg.No. 30,214  
Suite 1600 - International Centre  
900 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319  
Phone:(612) 334-3222 Fax:(612) 334-3312

ZPS/PJI/djb